

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SOUTHERN WATCHMAN, Established April, 1859.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June, 1846

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## BRITISH SUCCESS

### HEAVILY BOUGHT.

Naval Brigade and York-shires Bore Brunt of Battle.

London, Nov. 28.—A dispatch has been received here from Gen. Buller, giving a list of the casualties among the troops engaged in what was high-water mark as the battle of Gras Pan, but which is now officially designated the battle of Dabla. It proves, as anticipated, that the British success was heavily bought. The losses announced today added to the naval brigade casualties, previously notified, make a grand total of 198 as the cost of Gen. Methuen's second battle. The Yorkshires, apparently, bore with the naval brigade the brunt of the fighting as there were in addition to three officers, 48 of the rank and file killed, wounded and missing. The fact that the list contains the casualties of the Ninth Lancers seems to dispose of the fears that the cavalry was surrounded and captured, especially as none of the Lancers are reported missing.

Gen. Buller's list of the casualties shows among the wounded of the Second Yorkshires Light Infantry were Capt. C. A. Yates, Lieut. H. C. Ferry, Lieut. and Lieut. C. H. Ashford. The casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men of the various regiments engaged were: Killed, 10; wounded, 71; missing, 9.

The war office has received the following dispatch from Gen. Buller dated Pietermaritzburg, Natal, Nov. 24th:

"Our last news from Ladysmith, Nov. 24th, said all well. An old message, dated Nov. 19th, just arrived, begins: 'Joubert has explained firing on one (Red Cross) flag previously reported. Have accepted explanation as satisfactory'.

"Lieut. Lethbridge, rifle brigade, died of wounds. Others wounded generally doing well. Health of troops good."

"Six wounded Dublin Fusiliers captured on armored train south of Colenso sent here today."

A corrected list of the British casualties at Gras Pan shows that Flag Capt. Reginald C. Prothero; of the Dorset and Lieutenant of marines, Walter C. Jones, also of the Dorset, previously reported wounded, were killed.

The additional casualties telegraphed by Gen. Buller appear to be the first intimation of the actions of Gen. Methuen's forces, which have not yet been reported.

#### A TOUGH PROPOSITION.

The Associated Press learns that action of Lord Pauncefote and other British ambassadors in notifying the powers that a state of war has existed since Oct. 11th between Great Britain and the South African republics has prompted inquiries by the various London embassies regarding the nature of the hostilities. The Associated Press is officially informed that the notification has in no wise changed the British views as to the Boers' status. But, in spite of the ambiguous references in the queen's speech and other official documents at the commencement of the war regarding "military operation," and other evasive use of the term "war," it appears that the United States has consistently recognized the Boers as forming, practically, an independent State, considering the claim of British suzerainty too slight a thread to put them in the light of rebels. It is tacitly admitted by the British officials that the usual communications relative to a "state of war" were not made earlier because it was not thought that victory would be deferred long enough to make such a diplomatic step necessary. The government maintains that giving the Boers belligerent rights does not constitute an acknowledgment of their claim to independence, evidencing as proof of this contention that both foreign governments and the government of the United States treated the Confederates as belligerents.

#### GRAS PAN FIGHT.

Orange River, Monday, Nov. 27.—The British arms have achieved a brilliant victory. The enemy, strongly entrenched, held a range of hills commanding both sides of the railway at

Leposahires, under Lewis, reconnoitered in an armored train on Friday. The Boers shelled the train, killing Lewis and a private.

Gen. Methuen then advanced. His column made a detour and bivouacked for the night at Swank's Pan, three miles from the Boer position.

At dawn the advance began, the guards forming the reserve. The column debouched on the plain eastward of the Boer kopjes. The Boer guns opened fire. Two batteries of British artillery, posted on each side, shelled the Boers, practice being good on both sides.

The Boers struck tenaciously to their positions, firing steadily and accurately. The duel, which constantly became hotter, lasted three hours. The Boer shells wounded several men of the naval brigade.

Finding it impossible to displace the Boers by artillery, Gen. Methuen resolved up an infantry attack. A brigade of infantry, including the Yorkshires, the Northampton, the Northumberland and the Lancashire, with the naval brigade on the right, gallantly stormed the Boer positions in the face of a withering fire, and carried hill after hill, the brigade under Col. Money capturing the main position against a terrific fire and suffering severely.

Many of the Boers voluntarily surrendered.

The Boers were shelled during the firing retreat, and must have lost heavily, but they succeeded in getting away northward with their six guns.

The British were badly in need of more cavalry.

The bulk of the fighting was on Free State territory, and the engagement was admirably planned. Thirty Boer wounded are under treatment here.

#### THE BOERS' TACTICS.

Berlin, Nov. 28.—The Deutsche Zeitung publishes the following dispatch, dated Pretoria, November 27, receiving it, it is thought, through Boer diplomatic channels:

"President Kruger and President Steyn have instructed Gen. Joubert and Gen. Cronje not to split their forces into small detachments, but to strike vigorous blows. Gen. Joubert has three corps, one holding Ladysmith, the second commanding the Tugela, and the third east of Estcourt in order to cut off the British retreat. Gen. Cronje's forces are divided into three contingents, one at Kimberley, another at Modder river and third in the rear of Gen. Methuen."

London, Nov. 28.—Gen. Forestier-Walker has sent the following dispatch, dated Cape Town, today, to the war office: "Kekewich reports from Kimberley from Nov 18 to Nov 28 some unimportant skirmishes with the Boers. Wounded, Capt. Bodley, Lieut. Hawker and three troopers; all doing well. The health of the garrison is good, and the water supply is plentiful."

#### Port Royal Given Big Appropriation.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The report of Rear Admiral Endicott, chief of the bureau of naval yards and docks, submits estimates for improvements amounting to \$14,756,439. The recommendations are made with a view to so improving the various stations that the entire navy, including the portion in reserve, may be put into immediate service and kept there continuously. Among the items recommended are a new stone and concrete dry dock at the New York navy yard to cost \$1,000,000 and at Norfolk, to cost \$1,200,000. Another important item is \$1,500,000 for barracks at Boston, Brooklyn, League Island, Norfolk and Mare Island, each to cost \$300,000.

The total estimate for various navy yards and stations are as follows: Norfolk \$1,649,000, including \$300,000 to begin new dock and \$500,000 for additional land to increase scope of yard; Port Royal, S. C. \$882,000; Pensacola, Fla. \$20,000; Key West, Fla. \$117,000; Dry Tortugas, Fla. \$200,000.

#### Seaboard Going to Charleston.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 29.—The Chattanooga, Augusta and Charleston railroad company was organized here this afternoon. This is the Seaboard Air Line's new road between this city and Atlanta, surveys for which have been completed. The following officers were elected: President, E. Randolph Williams, of Baltimore; vice president and general manager, James U. Jackson, of Augusta; secretary, Henry Buist, of Charleston; treasurer, R. Goodwyn Rhett, of Charleston; board of directors, G. W. Williams, Jr., of Wilber, R. Goodwyn Rhett, W. B. Chisolm, C. S. Heard, James U. Jackson, S. H. Wilson, Henry Buist, E. Randolph Williams, S. W. Travis, W. B. Whaley and W. M. Wallace.

## British Numbers Triumph.

### Attacked 8,000 Boer Entrenched at Modder River.

London, Nov. 29.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Gen. Buller:

"Cape Town, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—Gen. Methuen reports:

"Modder River, Tuesday, Nov. 28.—Reconnoitered at 5 a. m. enemy's position on Modder River and found them strongly entrenched and concealed. No means of outflanking, the river being full. Action commenced with artillery, mounted infantry and cavalry, at 5.30, guard on right, Ninth brigade on left, attacked position in widely extended formation at 6.30, and supported by the artillery, found itself in front of the whole Boer force, 8,000 strong, with two large guns, four Krapps, etc."

"The naval brigade rendered great assistance from the railway."

"After desperate, hard fighting, which lasted 10 hours, our men, without water or food and in the burning sun, made the enemy quit his position."

"Gen. Pole-Carew was successful in getting a small party across the river, gallantly assisted by 300 sappers."

"I speak in terms of high praise of the conduct of all who were engaged in one of the hardest and most trying fights in the annals of the British army. If I can mention one arm particularly, it is two batteries of artillery."

A special dispatch from Windsor says that Gen. Methuen's dispatch to the queen after the battle of Modder River says:

"The battle was the bloodiest of the century. The British shelled the enemy out of the trenches and then charged. The result was terrible."

A revised list of the British casualties at Belmont shows:

Officers—Killed, 4; wounded, 22; non-commissioned officers and privates killed, 46; wounded 225, of which number the Guards had 35 killed and 159 wounded.

A revised list of the casualties sustained by Gen. Hildyard's forces at the battle of Beacon Hill shows: Killed, 18; wounded, 64; missing 1; prisoners, 8.

#### SORTIE FROM KIMBERLEY.

Pretoria, Monday, Nov. 27.—Gen. Dutoit reports that the British made a sortie from Kimberley early Saturday morning and fired on the Boers with artillery and infantry in the darkness. The British sortied where the Bloemhof Boer force was stationed. On our (the Boer) side there were 300 men. Gen. Dutoit, who was nine miles off, hastened to the assistance of the Bloemhof contingent with a hundred men. Nine burghers were killed, seventeen were wounded and there were some missing. The British left on the field a private and sergeant.

It is reported that the British attempted to leave Kimberley on the east side to assist the troops from Belmont. Commandant Lubbe was slightly wounded.

The British have repaired the damage to the railroad.

The Free Staters engaged with the British were overwhelmed by numbers and, after a brave stand until the afternoon we were compelled to take up another position on the other side of the railroad.

Delarey says it is impossible to give the numbers of killed and wounded Boers, but the loss is not great.

The Boers had four guns to the British 24.

#### GEN METHUEN WOUNDED.

London, Nov. 30.—It is officially announced that Gen. Methuen was among those wounded at the battle of Modder river.

Gen. Methuen, it developed later, was slightly wounded by a bullet which inflicted a flesh wound in the thigh.

Lieut. Long of the Second Yorkshires is another officer killed. Ten officers were wounded.

The war office today makes public the following dispatch from the officers commanding at Cape Town under date of Nov. 29:

Kimberley all well to Nov. 23. Rail and telegraph open to Modder river. Gatacre reports, Nov. 28, that the situation is unchanged.

The office has received the following dispatch from Buller dated Pietermaritzburg, Wednesday, Nov. 29: "Mitchell, a telegraphist, has just made his way out of Ladysmith to Weenen, whence he sends the following message: 'On Nov. 9 we beat back the Boers with great loss to the enemy. Our total casualties were remarkably small. There were only eight men killed during the siege of shells, and in all the battles, etc., only a hundred men have been killed or wounded.'"

"I left Ladysmith the night of Nov. 25. Since Nov. 9 no attempt has been made to attack Ladysmith in force."

The war office has received from the general commanding the troops at Cape

Town the following: The following received Nov. 30: "Killed, staff colonel, H. P. Northcott; Second Coldstreams, Lieut. Col. H. R. Stopford; Capt. S. Earle."

"Wounded, artillery, Maj. W. Lind-say, Capt. Farrell, Lieut. Dunlop, Lieut. Farce; Third Grenadiers, Maj. Count Gleichen, Lieut. the Hon. E. H. Lygon; Coldstreams, Lieut. Viscount Asheson; medical corps, Capt. C. A. Moore."

The casualties among the officers of the Ninth brigade and the men of the division will follow.

#### OPERATIONS IN NATAL.

Estcourt, Monday, Nov. 27.—The Twelfth Lancers are reported to have attacked Piet Retief's force at Weenen and to have inflicted great loss on the Boers. General Hildyard's troops bivouacked last night at Frere. Two Boers have been captured. One of them, a doctor, entered the British camp under the belief that it was a Boer bivouac.

Gen. Joubert is reported to have retreated to Colenso yesterday by way of Chieveley. He travelled in an omnibus drawn by six horses. It is rumored that he is hurrying to oppose Col. Baden-Powell.

Two Estcourt trains arrived at Frere last night. There is great rejoicing at the opening of the line.

Boer prisoners report Gen. Hildyard's night attack with cold steel paralysed the burghers, whose loss was 30 killed and over 100 wounded.

#### REPORTS OF HEAVY BOER LOSSES.

Orange River, Nov. 27.—Boer prisoners here report that the number of Boers killed at Belmont is believed to be 140, and at Gras Pan 400.

Among the prisoners are several with enormous red crosses on their sleeves. It is reported that they fought with the artillery.

#### NEWS OF KIMBERLEY AND MAFeking.

London, Nov. 30.—News received today from Kimberley under date of Nov. 30, and Mafeking Nov. 24: Nothing of importance was reported from either place.

#### LADYSMITH HEAVILY BOMBARDED MONDAY.

London, Dec. 1.—The Times publishes the following dispatch from Frere, Natal, dated Monday, Nov. 27: "Ladysmith was heavily bombarded today."

## No News From Africa.

### English Suffering in Painful Suspense.

London, Dec. 2, 4.30 a. m.—Absolute silence has fallen over affairs in South Africa. The war office has not yet received Lord Methuen's casualty list. The public and the press, hitherto patient, are beginning to murmur at the apparently needless delay which keeps many families in a state of painful suspense.

It is regarded as practically certain that Lord Methuen has been reinforced by half a battalion of the Gordon Highlanders, a regiment of cavalry and a battery of artillery, and that De laar is being daily reinforced by troops to hold the lines of communication.

It is supposed that the Natal advance has been delayed by the necessity of getting supplies to Pietermaritzburg, but not a word emanates from any of the various commands.

#### Civilizing the Soudan.

Cairo, Dec. 1.—Officers from the Soudan who have arrived here say that when Gen. Wingate's force overtook the khalifa the latter tried to outflank the Anglo-Egyptians but failed. Seeing his position was hopeless the khalifa told his emirs to stay with him and die.

He then spread a sheepskin on the ground and sat down on it, with the emirs on either side of him. The khalifa was found shot through the head, heart, arms and legs, and the emirs were lying dead beside him. The members of his bodyguard were all dead in front of them.

Gen. Wingate's force swept over them without recognizing the khalifa and his emirs, but they were identified later.

The khalifa is described as of medium height, strong and stout, of light brown color and wearing a long gray beard.

Liverpool, Dec. 1.—Following are the weekly cotton statistics: Total sales of all kinds, 75,000; American, 64,000; English spinners' takings, 72,000; total exports, 10,000; import, total, 67,000; American, 60,000; stock, total, 781,000; American, 694,000; quantity at, total, 140,000; all American; total sales on speculation, 4,100; total sales to exporters, 4,600.

## MINDANAO ACCEPTS AMERICAN RULE.

### Mayor of Zamboanga Assassinated Calixto and Has Himself Made President.

Manila, Dec. 1.—The seamer Salvador from Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, which has arrived here, brings details of the occupation of the town by Commander Very of the United States gunboat Castine. The revolutions in Mindanao were led by Alvarez and Calixto, who left Luzon some time ago and for the last seven months had been stirring up the people, winning a considerable following. The commercial depression and the lack of food resulting from the island's blockade set the people against the revolutionists and culminated in the assassination on Nov. 15 of Calixto, a firebrand and the real leader of the revolution, by Midel, mayor of the town of Tetuan. Midel, under a pretext, secured Calixto's presence in Tetuan, and where the mayor's guards were stationed, the latter fired a volley, killing Calixto instantly.

Midel at once repaired to the Castine and arranged with Commander Very for the occupation of Zamboanga. Commander Very asked that Datto Mandi, with 500 of his followers, stationed on a neighboring island, come to Zamboanga.

The following morning Midel raised the American flag over Zamboanga, the insurgents offering no resistance and evacuating the town. The Castine was saluted with 21 guns and Commander Very landed a hundred blue jackets and took possession of the town and fortifications. Datto Mandi's men arrived in the afternoon. They were armed with wooden shields and swords and were used on picket duty.

Commander Very dispatched the gunboat Manila Nov. 15 to Jolo, to convey troops to reinforce him. A company of the Twenty-third regiment under Capt. Nicholas arrived Nov. 17 and two more companies followed them shortly. Mandi's followers then returned home.

Alvarez sought to arrange for a surrender of the arms and artillery pieces. On the afternoon of Nov. 20 Midel called a meeting of the local chiefs, who formally deposed Alvarez as leader of the revolutionists in the island and elected Midel president of the new insular government established under American sovereignty and control. The chiefs then requested Commander Very to grant exemption from taxes until the reestablishment of commercial relations, permission to carry arms in the mountains, religious freedom and the power to conduct local government as they had previously done, which requests, pending the arrival of Brig. Gen. Otis or the military governor of the district, the commander granted.

Commander Very then effected an apparent reconciliation between Alvarez and Midel and their followers, Alvarez signing a formal resignation of the position of revolutionary leader Nov. 22 at a point on the coast near the rebel town of Mercedes. Alvarez delivered 13 Nordenfeldts and Maxims, with ammunition, which were stored on board the Castine. Eight Nordenfeldts and Maxims were delivered to the army in Zamboanga, as were also 200 rifles with ammunition.

Alvarez had only a dozen followers left, the remainder of the revolutionists having scattered and returned to their occupations. No fighting is expected.

Commander Very having started to occupy Zamboanga is considered to have handled the situation in its many phases with energy and diplomatic skill.

#### Pittman Cleared of Murder.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 29.—A J. Pittman, who killed his brother in the lobby of the Hotel Calhoun here on Oct. 18th, was tried for the murder in the court of sessions here today and acquitted. The brothers had had some business trouble, but had been partially reconciled and met at the hotel to talk matters over. They were in the reading room of the hotel when the affray took place. There were no eye witnesses. On the stand today Pittman said that he believed his life to be in danger when he fired.

## To Establish a Gold Standard.

### The Currency Bill Prepared by the Republicans.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The general currency bill prepared by the Republican caucus committee appointed by the last Congress has received its final revision at the hands of the members and will be given to the press to-morrow afternoon for publication on Wednesday, after a copy has been mailed to each Republican Representative in Congress. The measure represents the unanimous conclusions of the committee and will be called up for consideration at the caucus of the Republican members of the House, which is to be held probably next Saturday. Accompanying the bill is a report setting forth at length the reasons and necessity which, in the opinion of the committee, exist for the proposed legislation.

The Evening Star today prints the following as some of the chief features of the bill, and which in the main are fairly accurate:

"An amendment to the coinage laws, making 52.38 grains of gold, 900 parts fine, the standard coin measure."

"An amendment to the Greenback Reissue Act of 1878, providing that those treasury notes shall not be redeemed with gold, except in change for gold. This provision will prevent the operation of the endless chain which hitherto has been the means to raid the gold reserve."

"An amendment to the specie Resumption Act, directing the maintenance of a gold reserve of not less than \$100,000,000, the maintenance of the reserve at that figure now being entirely in the discretion of the secretary of the treasury."

"An amendment of the National Bank Act, authorizing banks to be organized with a capital stock of \$25,000. At present the minimum is \$50,000. Another amendment to the same Act, authorizing banks to issue notes to the par value of the bonds they have on deposit to secure circulation. At present the limit is 90 per cent. A third amendment to this Act reduces the taxation on bank circulation to one-tenth of 1 per cent. This tax is to pay the expense of engraving and printing the notes. The present rate more than meets this expense."

#### Foolish Talk in Frankfurt.

Frankfort, Ky., Nov. 27.—Senator Deboe left for Washington tonight and after his departure a story, emanating from Republican circles, was put abroad that in the event Goebel is given a certificate of election next Saturday by the throwing out of the vote of Jefferson, Knox and Johnson counties. Senator Deboe, Senator Lindsey, Governor Bradley, Gen. Taylor and other Republican leaders will unite in an appeal to President McKinley to declare martial law in Kentucky, recognizing Taylor as Governor and supporting his administration. Senator Deboe stated to the Associated Press reporter that he felt confident no emergency would arise requiring the assistance of the Federal authorities, but intimated that he had assurances that Federal aid could be had if it became necessary.

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 29.—A electric shock in the basement of Partridge & Richardson's department store, numbers 15 to 29 North Eighth Street, started a fire this morning that in less than four hours caused an estimated loss of more than \$3,000,000. The heaviest losers are J. B. Lippincott & Co., book publishers, 716 to 820 Filbert Street, whose six-story brick building, containing rare and valuable plates and machinery was completely gutted, involving a loss estimated by the members of the firm at \$2,000,000; and Partridge & Richardson.

New York, Nov. 29.—The east-bound Buffalo express on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad, while standing outside the station at Patterson, N. J., tonight was run into by a swiftly moving accommodation train, bound from Phillipsburg, N. J., to Jersey City. At least six people were killed, and there are now 20 injured at the hospital at Patterson, of whom some will probably die, while some of those not seriously injured were able to go to their destination.

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